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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-2. (canceled)

Claim 3. (currently amended) An information processing method whereby a stream of a video packet comprising image data encoded in a frame or a field, image data encoded between forward directional frames or fields, and image data encoded between bidirectional frames or fields is received and recorded into a storage device, comprising the steps of:

detecting a first marker packet which is sent just before a transport stream packet stream including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image from said received stream; and

detecting a second marker packet which is sent just after said transport stream packet including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image; and

identifying said transport stream packet including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image from said first marker packet and said second marker packet;

wherin the first marker packet and the second marker packet include unique packet identifiers not otherwise used in transport stream packets in the received stream.

Claim 4. (canceled)

Claim 5. (original) A method according to claim 3, wherein said received stream has been encrypted.

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Claim 6. (original) A method according to claim 3, wherein recording position information at the head of said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data in said storage device is stored on the basis of a result of said identification.

Claim 7. (original) A method according to claim 6, wherein upon reproduction, a recording unit including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data is reproduced from said storage device on the basis of the recording position information at the head of said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data, thereby performing a variable speed reproduction.

Claim 8. (currently amended) An information recording and reproducing method whereby a stream of a video packet comprising image data encoded in a frame or a field, image data encoded between forward directional frames or fields, and image data encoded between bidirectional frames or fields is recorded into a storage device on a unit basis of a predetermined number of recording units and said stream is reproduced from said storage device, comprising the steps of:

detecting a first marker packet which is sent just before a transport packet including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image from said received stream;

detecting a second marker packet which is sent just after the transport packet including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image;

identifying the transport packet of said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data from said first marker packet and said second marker packet;

adding information showing said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data on the basis of a result of said identification;

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counting said added information showing said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data every recording unit into said storage device; and adding a result of said counting every recording unit into said storage device; wherein the first marker packet and the second marker packet include unique packet identifiers not otherwise used in transport packets in the received stream.

Claim 9. (original) A method according to claim 8, wherein said stream to be recorded has been encrypted.

Claim 10. (canceled)

Claim 11. (original) A method according to claim 8, wherein upon reproduction, the recording unit including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data is reproduced from said storage device on the basis of a result of said counting added every said recording unit and a variable speed reproduction is performed.

Claim 12. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus in which a stream of a video packet comprising image data encoded in a frame or a field, image data encoded between forward directional frames or fields, and image data encoded between bidirectional frames or fields is received and recorded into a storage device, comprising: means for detecting a first marker packet which is transmitted just before a transport stream packet including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image from said received stream;

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means for detecting a second marker packet which is transmitted just after the transport stream packet including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image; and means for identifying said transport stream packet including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image from said first marker packet and said second marker packet; wherein the first marker packet and the second marker packet include unique packet identifiers not otherwise used in transport packets in the received stream.

Claim 13. (canceled)

Claim 14. (original) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said received stream has been encrypted.

Claim 15. (original) An apparatus according to claim 12, further having holding means for holding recording position information at the head of said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data in said storage device on the basis of a result of said identification.

Claim 16. (original) An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein upon reproduction, a recording unit including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data is reproduced from said storage device on the basis of said recording position information at the head of said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data, and a variable speed reproduction is performed.

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Claim 17. (currently amended) An information recording and reproducing apparatus in which a stream of a video packet comprising image data encoded in a frame or a field, image data encoded between forward directional frames or fields, and image data encoded between bidirectional frames or fields is recorded into a storage device on a unit basis of a predetermined number of recording units and said stream is reproduced from said storage device, comprising:

means for detecting a first marker packet which is transmitted just before a transport packet including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image from said received stream;

means for detecting a second marker packet which is transmitted just after the transport packet including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image;

means for identifying the transport packet of said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data from said first marker packet and said second marker packet; means for adding information indicative of said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data to said transport packet on the basis of a result of said identification;

means for counting the information showing said added intraframe or intrafield encoded image data every recording unit into said storage device; and

means for adding a result of said counting every recording unit into said storage device;

wherein the first marker packet and the second marker packet include unique packet identifiers not otherwise used in transport packets in the received stream.

Claim 18. (original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said stream to be recorded has been encrypted.

Claim 19. (canceled)

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Claim 20. (original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein upon reproduction, the recording unit including said intraframe or intrafield encoded image data is reproduced from said storage device on the basis of said count result added every said recording unit, and a variable speed reproduction is executed.